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Monday, March 5 2012

THE MORNING NEWS

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Aruba Airport dressing up pretty for visitors!



Last week Thursday the Minister of Transport proudly placed the first tile in the arrival corridor of the Aruba Queen Beatrix International Airport. This was the first step in the next phase of the beautification of the airport. The vision to change the airport from being purely commercial to one more friendly and service-minded is becoming a reality. The airport should reflect what Aruba represents and should promote the Aruba product as adequately as possible.

The moment a visitor steps unto the airport he/she should have a unique experience. According to Otmar Oduber.. "An airport is the first and last impression that a visitor gets of an island and for this reason it is important that we raise the level of our airport to give every visitor the feeling that they have arrived on a Caribbean island."

The new face of our airport should make every visitor feel welcome, encounter modern designs, and the artwork of local artists. There will be information stands about tourism, cultural places they can visit, and information on the different events taking place such as the Carubbian Festival. The idea is that the moment the visitor enters the airport they should feel the warmth of the island, the color of the sea, the sand and every thing that Aruba represents.



The CEO of Aruba's airport, Peter Steinmetz explained that there will be many changes during the year. There will be changes in the design of the carpets with Caribbean colors, tiles inscribed with "Aruba," "Bon Bini," "One Happy Island, and "Sun, Wind, Sand," up to the renovation of the bathrooms and the ceilings.

Interior Designer Claudia Ruiz-Vasquez is the brainchild behind the designs. The Minister applauded the innovative work of Ruiz-Vasquez, the Decoration Center that is putting the ideas into reality and Peter Steinmetz for his supervision of the entire process. It is expected that the renovations should be complete by the start of the high season this year.

Top Republican endorses Romney for president



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Top Republican Eric Cantor endorsed Mitt Romney yesterday for president of the United States, giving the frontrunner a boost as the primary nomination contest reaches a critical stage.

Cantor's endorsement, the first from a top member of the Republican congressional leadership, was seen as the strongest sign yet that the party establishment wants the increasingly bitter primary battle wrapped up soon.

Romney is the clear frontrunner for the Republican nomination to take on President Barack Obama in November but has faced stubborn challenges from two main rivals, Rick Santorum and Newt Gingrich. He won the Republican caucuses Saturday in Washington state

Super Tuesday essentially ended the Republican nomination battle in 2008, when Romney capitulated and Senator John McCain went on to become the nominee.

Cantor's home state of Virginia votes tomorrow and Romney is the overwhelming favorite there, as both Santorum, a former Pennsylvania senator, and Gingrich, a former House speaker, failed to get on the ballot.

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Hyatt Regency Aruba recognizes their outstanding associates for 2011









Recently, Hyatt Regency Aruba organized a celebration to acknowledge all their employees who did an outstanding job in 2011. During this event, the winners of "Employee of The Year," "Supervisor /Asst. Manager of the Year," "Casino Manager of the Year," and "Resort Manager of the Year were announced.

137 associates of various departments were recognized during 2011 as Employee of the Month, so it was not an easy task to choose the winners, but all associates received a warm welcome from Human Resources and executives during The celebratory event, which sported Carnaval ambience, culminated in the announcement of the winners.

"Employee of the Year": Fany Dirksz - Hostess, "Assistant Manager of the Year": Ashley Zaandam – Asst. Security Manager, "Casino Manager of the Year": Mervin Semeleer – Casino Asst. Shift Manager and "Resort Manager of the Year": Janine Cratz – Asst. Human Resources Director.

The winners received beautiful plaques and very attractive rewards for their exceptional performance. The management of Hyatt Regency Aruba wishes to congratulate all 137 associates once again for doing a great job, but especially the outstanding dedication of the 4 winners.

"Thank you for giving authentic hospitality," We are proud of you," said a Hyatt Management spokesperson.

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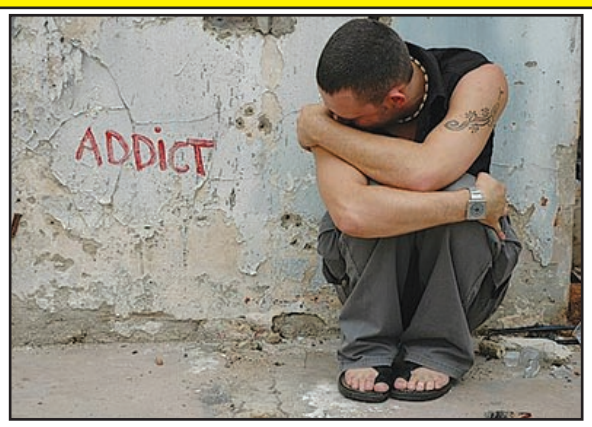


Adopt an Addict screaming for help!

ORANJESTAD -- The Adopt an Addict Foundation is reacting to and whishes to correct erroneous information shared on television and in other articles that the Foundation is receiving subsidies from the government.

It was reported in the media that the Adapt an Addict Foundation is fully subsidized by the government. It was even mentioned in the "Mesa Rondo" television program on ATV, that the Foundation receives more than Fls.400.000,00 per year from the government! This information apparently is totally false! The Board of the Foundation wants to make it crystal clear to everyone that the Foundation operates totally on the basis of financial donations. This basis of operations includes the "Speransa" Halfway House they operate. The Adapt an Addict Foundation receives absolutely no funding from the government!

In the beginning they sent clients for rehabilitation purely on the sponsorship of commerce and private entities, without any support from the government. With the change of government they succeeded to convince the government to instead of giving the addicts welfare monies, which they use for drug deals, to use this money to help send them to a rehabilitation center. This is happening today. Hence, the welfare money is being used to pay for their rehab program in Santo Domingo. These funds go through the foundation, which in turn is sent in its totality to Santo Domingo to pay for the client's program. The money covers their housing, therapy, meals, medical security and all other expenses they may incur. For example, destructions to property or to individuals they cause while in the treatment program must also be covered from these funds. In many instances the money is not even enough to cover all the expenses.



Each client receives a monthly stipend of Afls.350.00. All the work that the Foundation does to prepare the addict and to send him/her off to Santo Domingo is done with funds from the donations received. Based on an average of 47 persons in Santo Domingo, the cost per month is estimated at Afls.16.450,00, which is a whopping Afls.197.400,00 per year. This is the amount that the Department of Social Affairs contributes to the therapy for these persons directly.

Adopt an Addict receives those who return from therapy in Santo Domingo in their Halfway House located in Moko. For the expensive upkeep of the facilities in this house, the Foundation has to depend on donations to pay the rent, electric and water bills. They must also provide meals for all those residing in the house. It is also important to note that everyone working with the Foundation do so without any remuneration. Everyone works as volunteers. But, the director is on a payroll and psychologist must be paid for their services to the clients, because AZV does not cover these expenses.

Continued on page 13

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Cruise and Cargo activity showing increases and stability

ORANJESTAD -- Aruba Ports Authority (APA) closed the month of February 2012 with a total of 43 cruise calls to our Oranjestad harbour within the month. The port had a count of 90.907 passengers and 35.811 crew members! These figures indicate that there were fewer crew members and less cruise ships, but a slight increase of 0.58% in visitors for the month of February. APA's registration is in sync with projections made in 2011 which indicated that cruise ships will continue to come with a 98% capacity.

The slight increase is due to the fact that Crown Princess, with a capacity of 3.080 passengers, cancelled a trip to Aruba because of the problem they had of an outbreak of Norovirus onboard. After disinfecting the ship it set sail from South Florda back to the Caribbean.

With respect to the importation of containers, the ASTEC figures for February 2012 are showing the same figures as for 2011. Regarding "dry bulk," which is primarily sand for plastering and Limestone, the amount of importation has remained the same as was the first two months of 2011.

Importation of containers for February 2012:

	Total of	Total of	Accumulative		Difference of '11	
	Containers	TEUS	Containers	TEUS	Containers	TEUS
January	1236	2066	1,207	2,066	1.09%	-0.40%
February	1164	1939	2,325	4,005	1.09%	**-0.02%**

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Protect and Preserve Aruban Women… at all cost!

International Women's Day is the day we set aside time to honor the women in our society, our lives! Here on Aruba we pay some homage to our female citizens on this day. There is a special conference planned with speakers from various walks of life coming to share their thoughts. Government officials will pay tribute to our women…and the day will have been well spent. And, after all the nice words and eloquent speeches, and perhaps some 'resolutions' we go back to life as usual. The women in our society return to their lives to face the very same challenges, uncertainties, fears, inequalities, abuses, disrespect and frustrations they had before the conference!

The question I raise is… what will we accomplish with all the rhetoric? The money we spent to bring these women 'experts' to Aruba… .was it worth it, when the average women who did not go to the conference in the first place because they felt that such conferences are only for the elite sort; and many of those who did go, return to their lives the next day to face the same dilemmas of every day unabated.

I must hasten to add here that, by no means am I discrediting the conference. I am convinced that conferences like these are superb and should be held and that they can be extremely eye-opening; I am invited constantly to speak at many myself. However, the question I raise is… how well are we equipped to make a real, lasting difference in the lives of women, what practical steps will be taken to change the obvious plights of women in our society, what legislation will we enact tomorrow to better protect and promote the true interests of our female citizens! If these elements are not on the agenda with a definite follow up plan, I question the value of such conferences..



To any keen observer, the plight of women in the Aruban society is grave, to say the least. Since last year's International Women's Day, there are more women suffering the scars of abuse from men today. There are more women running to our women's shelter today. Violence to women in this community is at an all-time high. As a psychologist I know that many of the abuse cases never get reported and remain secrets in households. Women come to us to 'unload' their fears, frustrations and to get some relief from the pain of rejection they live with everyday.

In Aruba, a small sampling of our women have achieved improved social success, have climbed the corporate ladder, have better financial security, have stable families and homes. But, a large percentage, based on news reports and daily police records, are living in dire straits emotionally, relationally, and in many cases, financially.

Violence and physical abuse from unscrupulous men are rampant. The number of single women with children seems to have doubled in the last 5 years. Many women continue to complain about the lack of respect they receive from their bosses and male colleagues. The number of women drinking alcohol exces- sively has increased… they tell me, this is one way they can forget their problems and dampen the pain of rejection!

Continued on page 13



Art of Living Foundation will continue their programs with Guru Dushyant Savadia in April

Islanders recently enjoyed the presence and teachings of Guru Dushyant Savadia, a teacher with the Art of Living (AOL) Foundation over the past ten days. During his stay he conducted a number of free introductory session of the Sudar- shan Kriya Yogi breathing techniques, known as S.K.Y., at various venues around the island; this simple technique of breathing and exercises to cope with the stress of a demanding world evoked great interest and response.

The Art of Living Foundation is a non- profit organization founded in 1981 by Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, which operates in 151 nations. Guru Dushyant has been conducting Art of Living seminars for the last 11 years, and shared how the philosophy and lifestyle reformed his life along with his desire to bring to others the peace and exhilaration prompted by these techniques.

"Most importantly, people must understand this is not a religion," he emphasizes, "the arts of breathing and mediation are for all, no matter your faith." Local Volunteer, Jody, who is helping to organize the seminars sponsored by Gupta Prakash of AIG, reported that she was suffering greatly from stress until trying the program in Curacao, which literally changed her life. She made it her mission to bring Guru Dusyant to Aruba to share the benefits with her community. Prakash, with his wife Niti and their children, have also found the course has enhanced their daily lives and he is proud to sponsor and promote the program.

"It is amazing," observed Guru Dushyant, "not smiling, being grumpy- this has become the norm of today's society. When people are smiling, we question them-'why are they smiling?' 'why are they happy?' this has to change." His energetic, personal demeanor is certainly a testament to the effectiveness of the practices encouraged by the foundation and its volunteer instructors.

Guru Dushyant had explained that he came to AOL through a course he was required to take by his employers in India; he had been a chain-smoker and confessed to an alcohol problem prior to his enlightenment. Ironically, he admits, he was "most reluctant to take the course, but my employer required we do so. I was only 23 at the time, and I thought I was too young to learn breathing and mediation- I thought that would be something for when I was old and retired."

"The AOL course did open my eyes, because the wisdom it imparts is so powerful, it teaches such practical tools to handle the day to day challenges and stresses. I think being happy, being joyful, being centered, being at ease, is something that is necessary for the whole society to grow and bring progress to our islands, also."

"Spiritual Growth simply means-how at ease are you with yourself?" he told island media, "and how much of ease can you bring people around you? Ask yourself-'Are you at ease? Are you comfortable wherever you are-with whoever you are? Are those around you comfortable with you?' That determines the true success, the growth of a human being; what have we done to bring this ease into our system, is, I think, very important to consider and attend to. If we are not at ease, how can we bring ease to our society, our family?"



Guru Dushyant (c) with the Niti and Prakash Gupta (r) and volunteers

"To my thinking there are two things that are very important for success: you must know your job, be an expert in your own field, you should have "domain expertise." Another important sign of success, which is usually ignored, is "soft skills." You may be an architect, but if you are not able to demonstrate, or engagingly present your plan to your client, don't exude enthusiasm or lack the clarity of mind to express your ideas, than all that domain expertise is of no use. Makes sense, doesn't it?"

Full Art of Living Seminars cost 300 Aruban florins for an intensive 4-day session in the evenings from 7:00 PM to 10:30 PM. The next AOL course will be from April 22 through 26, and for more information and inscription, inquire via e-mail: aolaruba@gmail.com or call 737-3743 or 562-4722. For more tidbits of wisdom from Guru Dushyant and snippets of philosophy to integrate into your daily life, visit his personal blog: http://dushyantsavadia.net/

by Rosalie Klein



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Residents mourn dead after tornadoes kill 38 in US

CHICAGO (AFP) - Residents of Midwestern states mourned their dead yesterday after a string of killer tornadoes tore through the US heartland, killing at least 38 people, injuring hundreds and virtually wiping out entire communities.

Church services were held throughout the stricken region as stunned Americans grappled with the magnitude of the destruction brought by Friday's twisters.

More trials, however, were in store for the disaster area. While tornado watches were discontinued, the National Weather Service forecast a cold front with possible snow, a development that could pose a challenge for people left without homes.

President Barack Obama called the governors of Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio to offer condolences for the dead and said the federal emergency management agency stood ready to help, the White House said.

Deaths were reported in Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Alabama and Georgia as the storm system moved eastward.

About 300 injuries have been reported in Kentucky, according to Kentucky governor Steve Beshear, who surveyed the damage in the devastated town of West Liberty. There was damage in 40 counties with power supplies to tens of thousands knocked out.

The only good news amid all this death and devastation was a report that a two-year-old girl survived a terrifying tornado that killed her parents and siblings.

The unidentified toddler was found lying among the bodies of her family in a field near a flattened home in New Pekin, Indiana, said hospital staff.

The latest wave of storms comes as people were picking through rubble left behind by a string of twisters across six states that killed 13 people earlier in the week.

The NWS received 83 reports of tornadoes in eight states by Friday evening, bringing the week's total to 133.

This year tornadoes have come early with the mild winter creating the conditions for cold fronts to slam into warmer air.

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Obama announces top award for Israel's Peres



WASHINGTON (AFP) - President Barack Obama announced Sunday that he was bestowing America's highest civilian award, the presidential medal of freedom, upon Israeli President Shimon Peres, for his "moral example."

"Shimon once described the story of the Jewish people by saying it proved that, 'slings, arrows and gas chambers can annihilate man, but cannot destroy human values, dignity, and freedom'," Obama said.

Obama said the award would be presented to the 88-year-old Peres, a two-time former Israeli prime minister who also served once as interim prime minister, later this spring at the White House.

Peres first served as Israeli prime minister in 1977 after the resignation of Yitzhak Rabin, and has been a tireless advocate for peace with the Palestinians, enduring years of criticism even from his own Labor Party.

Putin declares victory in Russia elections

MOSCOW (AFP) - Yesterday, Russian leader Vladimir Putin declared victory after an "open and honest battle" for the presidential post, as he addressed tens of thousands of supporters outside the Kremlin walls.

"We have won in an open and honest battle," Putin said with tears in his eyes and his voice hoarse with emotion, standing alongside outgoing President Dmitry Medvedev. "I promised you we would win, we won. Glory to Russia!"

Brazil's Lula in hospital with 'lung infection'

SAO PAULO (AFP) - Brazil's former president Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva was admitted to hospital yesterday suffering from a "mild lung infection" two weeks after completing radiation therapy for larynx cancer.

A statement from Sirio-Libanes Hospital in Sao Paulo said the 66-year-old former leader was diagnosed with a fever along with the infection and would be treated with antibiotics and remain there for several days.

Witnesses describe apocalyptic scenes after Congo blast

BRAZZAVILLE (AFP) - Stunned residents of Congo's capital surveyed damage caused by deadly blasts at a weapons depot yesterday that levelled homes, destroyed military barracks and blew out windows in a neighbouring city.

At least 100 people, possibly many more, were killed and hundreds more wounded when a weapons depot caught fire, triggering a series of at least five explosions.

Firefighters were finding it hard to fight blazes because of ongoing blasts, officials said, with a military barracks and the area around the munitions depot devastated.

The blasts were even felt across the Congo River in the neighbouring city of Kinshasa, capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo, where windows shattered on some buildings.

Soldiers said a blaze in two munition depots in the Mpila armoured brigade barracks, in east Brazzaville, had triggered the explosions.

Obama urges Iran to seek diplomatic way out

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US President Barack Obama urged Iran yesterday to seek a diplomatic solution to the nuclear stand-off, reaffirming his backing for key ally Israel and saying there was "too much loose talk of war."

Addressing a pro-Israeli lobby group in Washington alongside Israeli President Shimon Peres, Obama said international sanctions were working and cautioned against saber-rattling as Iran moves closer to a nuclear weapon.

"Because of our efforts, Iran is under greater pressure than ever before," he said.

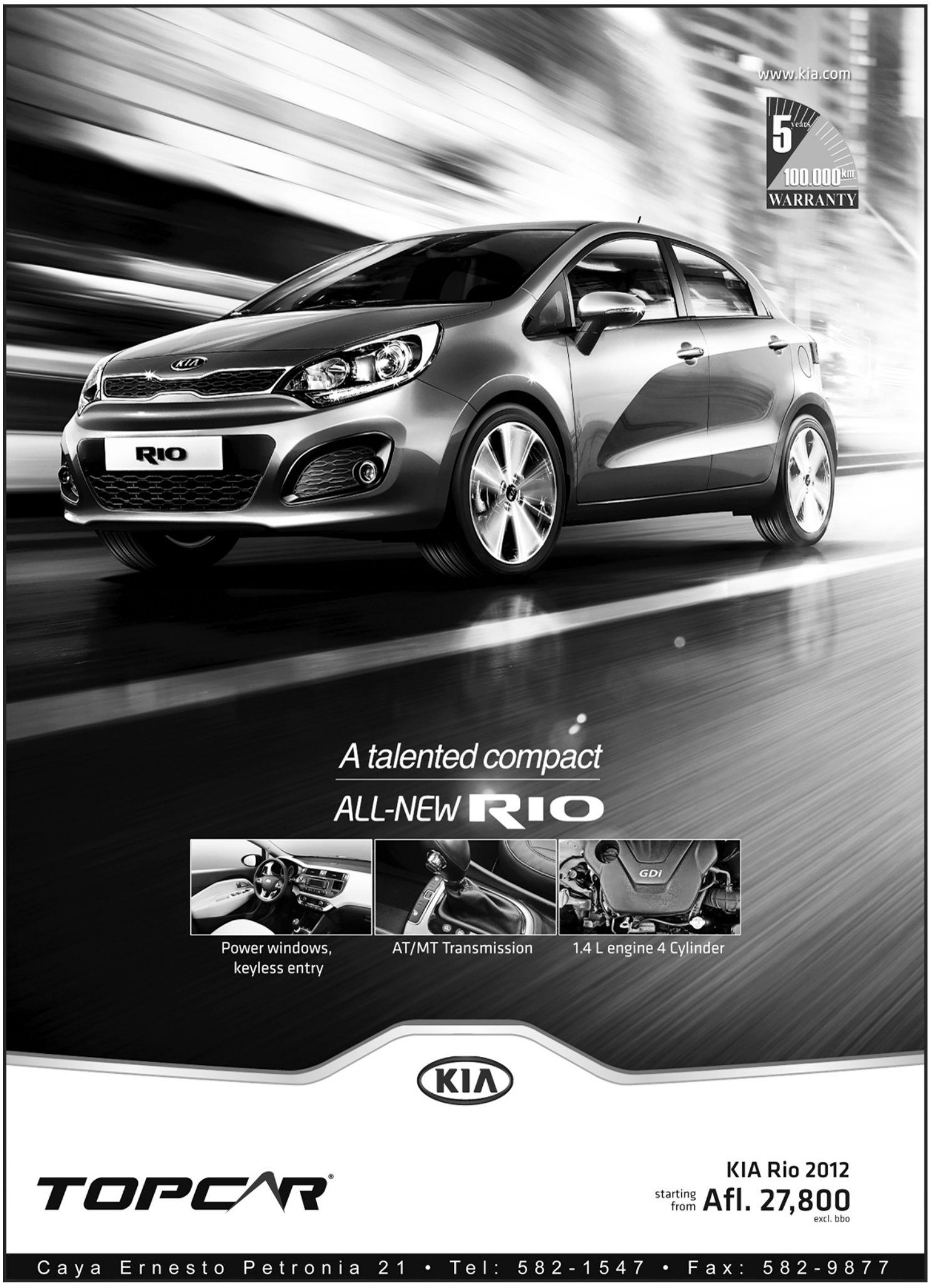
"Iran is isolated, its leadership divided and under pressure. And the Arab Spring has only increased these trends, as the hypocrisy of the Iranian regime is exposed, and its ally -- the Assad regime (in Syria) -- is crumbling. I firmly believe that an opportunity remains for diplomacy -- backed by pressure - to succeed."

US intelligence is said to believe that Iran does not currently intend to produce nuclear weapons, though it may be seeking the capacity to do so, and Washington has emphasized the importance of deterrent sanctions and diplomacy.

But Israel is reportedly eager to move more quickly and decisively against Iran's nuclear activities, using a military strike to prevent it from obtaining even the capacity to take a decision to produce nuclear weapons.

"For the sake of Israel's security, America's security, and the peace and security of the world, now is not the time for bluster; now is the time to let our increased pressure sink in, and to sustain the broad international coalition that we have built," Obama said.

But he also reaffirmed his strong backing for Israel and warned Iran's leaders that he would not hesitate to use force, if required, to stop it developing a nuclear weapon.



Qaeda assault kills at least 30 Yemeni soldiers

ADEN (AFP) - Fierce clashes between the Yemeni army and Al-Qaeda in the country's restive south killed at least 30 soldiers and 12 militants yesterday, medics and officials said.

"So far 30 soldiers have been killed and the toll is expected to rise as some bodies have not been transferred to hospital yet," a military official said on condition of anonymity.

He said that "many more soldiers were wounded" in the clashes south of Zinjibar, Abyan's provincial capital where the army has been battling Islamists since May.

An official in Kud, meanwhile, told AFP that Al-Qaeda gunmen had taken away the bodies of three of the soldiers killed.

The militants also seized heavy weapons before pulling back to Zinjibar, an army source said, accusing some army leaders who had served under former president Ali Abdullah Saleh of "collaborating" with Al-Qaeda.

It was the latest in a spate of attacks against security forces since President Abdrabuh Mansur Hadi took over from Saleh and was sworn in on February 25 under a Gulf-brokered transition accord.

Chavez cancer has returned

CARACAS (AFP) - Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez yesterday admitted publicly for the first time that a lesion removed last week in Cuba was a recurrence of cancer and said he would need more radiotherapy treatment.

Chavez underwent surge in Havana last week for what he called a "lesion" in the same area around the pelvis where a tumor was extracted in June 2011.He declared himself cancer-free last October, but announced last month that a new, potentially malignant lesion had been discovered.

Venezuelan officials have never specified the kind of cancer the leftist president is suffering from, but they have denied the disease has spread to other organs.



Health & Living

Mirrors ease Cambodian amputees' phantom pain



Canadian trainer Stephen Sumner (R) assists a Cambodian amputee to use a mirror during the first mirror therapy training session at the Cambodia Trust

KAMPONG CHHNANG (AFP) - Pov Sopheak lost his left leg in a landmine blast in 1990. Yet some nights the pain in his "left foot" is so bad he cannot sleep. Like many amputees, he suffers from phantom pain.

Now, after two decades of agony, the Cambodian is embracing an innovative technique that promises relief simply by using a mirror to trick the brain into "moving" the missing limb, allowing the pain to subside.

Sitting in a chair and holding a full-length mirror against his leg, Sopheak, 50, smiles self-consciously as some two dozen physical therapists gather around him.

It is their first mirror therapy training session at the Cambodia Trust, a rehabilitation charity for amputees in the central province of Kampong Chhnang.

But Sopheak visibly relaxes as he follows the instructions of visiting Canadian trainer Stephen Sumner to wriggle his right toes and keep his eyes on his foot's reflected image, superimposed on the missing one.

"It's a new sensation. It's strange but in a good way," the former soldier, who now works as a security guard, told AFP. "I see my leg in the mirror and I feel happy, like my mind is at ease."

Sumner explains that the reflection of the intact limb can fool the brain into "seeing" two healthy legs, allowing it to once again send command signals to the phantom leg -- signals that would previously come back distressed because the limb was missing.

"Looking in the mirror, the brain suddenly enables you to move your phantom foot and do everything the real foot is doing," said Sumner, 51, who lost his left leg in a hit-and-run motorbike accident eight years ago.

"The brain just wants to be tricked. It's dying for release."

The theory, which also works to ease phantom arms out of painful or cramped positions, was developed in 1995 by neuroscientist Vilayanur S. Ramachandran from the University of California, San Diego, named as one of the world's most influential people by Time magazine in 2011.

Habits That Will Make You Happy



By Robin Westen

Scientists report some people are born happy. Their brains automatically produce feel-good chemicals. But for those who are more apt to see the glass as half empty, don't despair. Research has also shown if we get into certain happy-making habits, we can bump up our optimism. Here's how to do it:

Make Lists

Turns out that just letting the day go by is likely to make us blue. Instead, accomplishing even small goals, or working towards them, gives our mood a boost. One caveat: Be easy on yourself. Don't keep your expectations so high they can't be met. Create doable goals – and not too many.

Sort Through Your Friends

It may sound cold, but negative or needy friends make us feel down and stressed. You needn't drop these friends like hot potatoes, but make it a point to schedule more time with your upbeat buddies.

Snooze

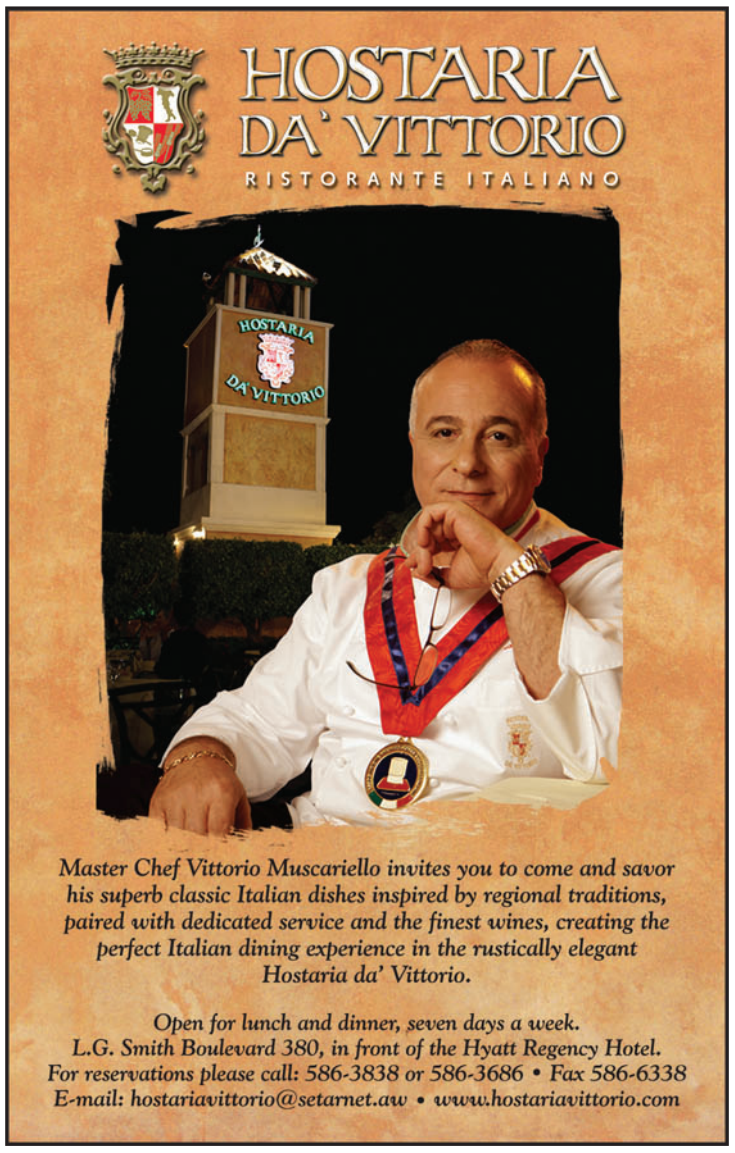
Mounting research confirms short naps not only help us concentrate but improve our moods. Squeezing a 10- to 20-minute nap into the middle of your day is all you need.

Meditation

Countless studies show meditating just fifteen minutes a day boosts mood, lowers blood pressure and creates a more relaxed view of life. You can make your mantra – the word you focus on - "peace" "quiet" or "joy," whatever word makes you smile.

Make Exercise A Priority

No excuses! Whether you're trying to lose weight, fight disease or simply boost happiness, exercise should be a non-negotiable. In fact, it might just be the single most important activity to improve your over all wellbeing. If the gym isn't for you, walk up stairs, or go for a brisk daily walk. Just get moving.



Collaboration shields AIDS patients from tuberculosis: UN

GENEVA (AFP) - Some 910,000 lives have been saved so far under a six-year-old policy of cooperation between AIDS and tuberculosis health services, the World Health Organisation estimated recently.

The stepped-up collaboration has brought about better protection of AIDS patients against TB, a leading killer of people living with HIV, the Geneva-based UN agency said in a statement.

The number of HIV-positive patients tested for TB grew nearly 12-fold between 2005 and 2010, from 200,000 to more than 2.3 million.

In the other direction, the number of TB patients screened for HIV grew five-fold, from 470,000 to 2.2 million over the same period.

Since HIV weakens the immune system, HIV-positive people are more likely to be infected with TB, and vice versa.

"We must address TB as we manage HIV," said Gottfried Hirnschall, who heads WHO's HIV/AIDS department.

Taiwan official quits over 'bird flu cover-up'

TAIPEI (AFP) - A top Taiwan agriculture official stepped down Sunday amid allegations he covered up bird flu outbreaks, a day after authorities said they had culled thousands of chickens.

Hsu Tien-lai, the chief of the Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection and Quarantine had tendered his resignation, Council of Agriculture spokesman Wang Cheng-taung told AFP.

Hsu was accused in a documentary of covering up outbreaks of H5N2 bird flu, a less virulent strain of the virus.

Wang insisted that the "approval of Hsu's resignation is not an indication that he had 'covered up' the flu outbreak", adding that the accusations would be investigated.

Wang also confirmed Sunday Taiwan's poultry exports would be suspended for at least three months, with an estimated loss of up to Tw$600 million ($20.27 million) this year.

Taiwan reported its first outbreak of H5N2 -- which officials say does not affect human health -- in 2004 but has remained clear of the more virulent H5N1 strain, which is potentially fatal for humans.

SCI-TECH

Radical new 'focus later' camera begins shipping





WASHINGTON (AFP) - A radical new camera that lets you adjust the focus after you take a picture began shipping this past week.

The Lytro is the creation of Ren Ng, who started work on the digital camera while studying for a doctorate in computer science at Stanford University in California.

The telescope-shaped camera uses what is known as "light field technology" to allow the focal point of a digital image to be changed after the picture is taken, a feature that Lytro calls "shoot now, focus later."

Clicking on a Lytro picture displayed on a computer screen allows a viewer to shift the focus from a subject in the foreground, for example, to a subject in the background.

The Lytro can do this because it uses powerful sensors to capture significantly more light than a conventional camera.

Lytro chief executive Ng, who was born in Malaysia and raised in Australia, describes the images as "living pictures" because of the ability to manipulate them.

"This is a very exciting time for our growing Lytro team," he said in a blog post to mark the shipments of the first models. "We finally get to see how you use the Lytro camera to create and share your own living pictures."

When Lytro pictures are shared online, the "light field engine" travels with each image so anyone can interact with them on desktop and tablet computers or on smartphones.

The 16-gigabyte model of the camera, which is about the same size as a stick of butter and can fit easily in a pocket, costs $499 and can hold 750 pictures. An 8GB version costs $399 and can capture 350 images.



Go Green with baking soda

Kitchen

- A bowl of baking soda in your fridge will help remove excess moisture and absorb odors.

- Dissolve a couple of tablespoons of baking soda in water in a microwave safe bowl, then bring to the boil in your microwave. Allow to sit for a minute or two, then you should easily be able to wipe out any baked on stains, plus your oven will microwave will smell fresher too.

General home

- Anywhere that moisture is a problem, such as cupboards under sinks, place a bowl of baking soda to help control humidity. You'll need to occasionally stir the powder for maximum effective life.

- Stains on porcelain sinks, toilets and plastics can be removed by applying a layer of baking soda and then using a damp sponge . I found this to work particularly well on a water stain in a sink that couldn't be shifted otherwise without the use of heavy duty chemicals and scratching the surface.

Garden

- Baking soda can deter ants - pour a solid line in areas of activity and they won't cross it.

Laundry

- Half a cup of baking soda added to a full load of washing will help brighten your wash and remove odors.

Personal

- A half teaspoon of baking soda mixed into a glass of water can act as mouthwash.

- Sprinkle baking soda onto regular toothpaste to create a whitening toothpaste

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Australia's Barrier Reef to get Google treatment



SYDNEY (AFP) - Australian scientists mapping the Great Barrier Reef will broadcast their findings in partnership with Google, emulating its "Street View" to spotlight the impact of climate change.

The University of Queensland's Seaview Survey will use custom-designed cameras and diving robots to plumb never-before-seen depths of the reef off Australia's northeast coast.

It is a scientific expedition with an everyman twist, according to chief scientist for the project, Ove Hoegh-Guldberg.

A special four-lensed camera, which can be held by a scuba diver swimming through and over the corals, will capture a "rapid visual census" of life forms at 20 sites along the entire 2,300-kilometre (1,400-mile) length of the reef.

An estimated 50,000 panoramas, shot in 360-degree high-definition, will then be uploaded to Google's Panoramio site for use on Google Maps and Google Earth.

The result will be a kind of undersea version of its "Street View" function, which allows web users to access street scenes around the world.

Lady Gaga the First to Hit 20 Million Twitter Followers



Lady Gaga has become the first person to attract 20 million followers on Twitter, blasting through that landmark number on Saturday.

Gaga topped fellow pop icon Britney Spears in August of 2010 to become the most-followed person on Twitter. Currently, Spears has 13.5 million Twitter followers -- roughly 6.5 million less than Gaga.

While Spears occasionally posts personal tweets, her account is largely maintained by her management team. Gaga has claimed to personally maintain her Twitter account and regularly uses it to interact with fans, share original pictures and make announcements. After passing Spears, Gaga then dubbed herself the "Queen of Twitter," and has retained the title ever since.

The top 5 most-followed people on Twitter are all musicians. Lady Gaga (20 million followers), Justin Bieber (18 million followers), Katy Perry (15.7 million followers), Shakira (14.5 million followers) and Rihanna (14.4 million followers) top the Twitter charts.

While Bieber tweets much more often than Gaga does, statistics from twitter-counter.com suggest Gaga's Twitter crown isn't in any immediate danger of being overtaken by Bieber. Gaga's daily Twitter growth rate is consistently higher than Bieber's -- keeping her lead safe.

In addition to her 20 million Twitter followers, Lady Gaga has 48.8 million fans on Facebook and is in approximately 830,000 circles on Google+.

COMICS



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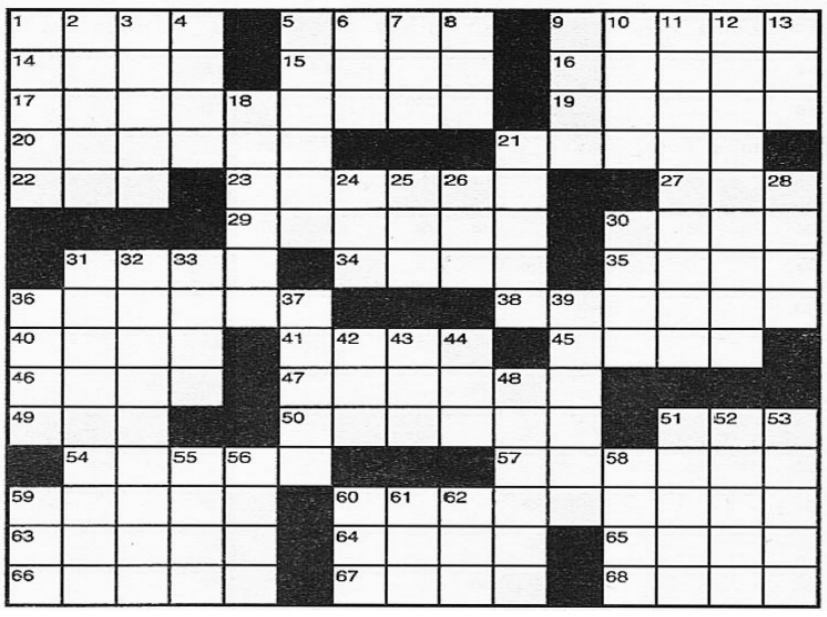
A COOPERATIVE CHORUS

ACROSS

1. Start to wake up
5. Intimidated
9. Like Fran Drescher's voice
14. "Utopia" author
15. Mrs. David Copperfield
16. Island off Venezuela
17. "Affirmative!"
19. Throws down the gauntlet
20. Dorothy Gale, for one
21. Wide-eyed one
22. Lash locale
23. An Argonaut
27. Singing syllable
29. Okey-doke, in London
30. Melville's obsessive captain
31. Folkie Guthrie
34. Eastern holidays
35. Head, bread, dead, or red trailer
36. Complaining sounds
38. Tours of duty
40. Southern constellation
41. Surface
45. Carriages
46. Teenager's "says"
47. "Affirmative!"
49. Cabinet dept.
50. Explosive mixture
51. N.Y. ballplayer
54. Africa's ___ Mountains
57. Harasses
59. RFK's widow
60. "Affirmative!"
63. Pull one's leg
64. City south of Turin
65. Serving scorer
66. Adlai's running mate in 1956
67. It's near the Nair
68. Enjoins

DOWN

1. Back room pollution
2. Hungarian wine
3. Actress Worth
4. Spanish kings
5. Hebrew title for God
6. Shallow skillet
7. Before, to Browning
8. Actor Daniel ___-Lewis
9. Nothing, to Pedro
10. Daniel ___ Moi of Kenya
11. "Affirmative!"
12. Peculiar people
13. Singing syllables
18. Wrinkle-resistant fabric
21. 12 dozen
24. Military rank: abbr.
25. Bible's second word
26. Slugger Mel
28. Justice Fortas et al.
30. Hawaiian royalty
31. Claims presumptuously
32. "Affirmative!"
33. Where the Hmong live
36. Foolishly enthusiastic
37. Viking tales
39. Kerry County seat
42. NT book
43. After zeta
44. Playbill
48. Tolkien creation
51. Setting for Chapters 17-19 of Malcolm X's autobiography
52. Olden anesthetic
53. Michael and Peter
55. ___ majesty
56. Bath suds
58. Low-percentage try
59. After printemps
60. "___ Can Cook" (PBS show)
61. Sugary suffix
62. Colorado Indian



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Telephone Helpline
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Tel: 5696910

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Horacio Oduber Hospital
Tel. **5274000**

EMERGENCY
Telephone 911

POLICE HDQS
Telephone 100

TAXI
C.V. TAS
587-1998, 587-5900
In Oranjestad:
Tel. 582-2116, 582-1604
582-5447
In San Nicolas
Tel. 584-5160, 584-6602
professional taxi services
Tel. 588-0035

Al Anon Meetings
Mondays 6-7pm
Sabana Liber 8 in Noord
Tel: 5673356 / 5838989

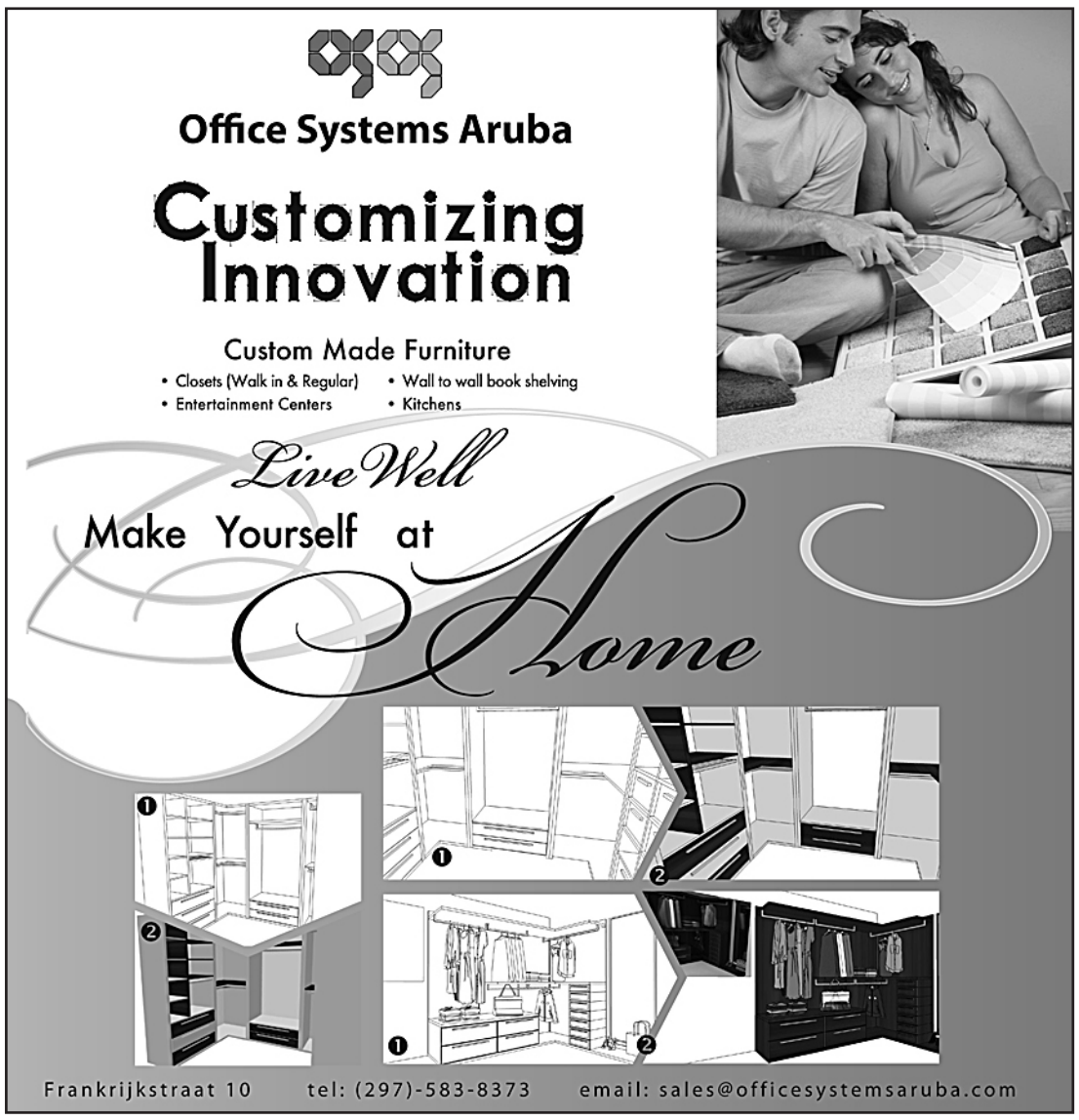
Sudoku

			3	8		9	2	
	5							4
4			7	2			8	
6					7			2
		8	4		9	7		
7			2					9
	7			4	1			8
9							5	
	8	4		9	2			

SOLUTION

7	3	1	2	6	9	4	8	5
6	5	4	3	7	8	1	2	9
8	9	2	1	5	4	6	7	3
9	1	5	8	9	2	3	4	7
3	6	7	9	4	5	8	1	2
2	4	8	7	3	1	5	9	6
1	8	6	5	2	7	9	3	4
4	7	3	6	1	9	2	5	8
5	2	9	4	8	3	7	6	1

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9





Finance

Businesses urge government to re-think Heathrow runway plans

LONDON - Some 70 business leaders and groups representing hundreds of others have written an open letter to the government demanding the debate about building a third runway at Heathrow airport be re-opened.

The letter is signed by large corporations such as Microsoft Corp and Telefonica O2, and puts further pressure on the government to re-think its aviation policy.

The letter was also signed by John Longworth, director general of the British Chambers of Commerce.

Heathrow is operating at almost full capacity after the coalition government blocked development of a third runway when it came to power in 2010, as further expansion of the west London site would mean a huge increase in the number of planes flying directly over the capital.

The Department for Transport said it did not support the development of a third runway at Heathrow because of the "unacceptable environmental consequences."

Nissan to bring back the Datsun brand

TOKYO -- Automaker Nissan is preparing to bring back the Datsun brand, which was retired in the 1980s, reports in Japan said.

The Datsun gave Nissan a niche market. The brand was known for its small sports cars and fuel-efficient sedans. It was introduced in the 1930s and made it to the U.S. market in 1958, The Wall Street Journal reported Saturday.

Nissan, Japan's No. 2 automaker by volume after Toyota, produces a high-end brand called Infiniti but has no low-cost or entry-level brand for first-time car buyers. A revived Datsun could fit emerging markets such as India, Indonesia and Russia.

Enbridge says no timeline for pipeline restart

CALGARY, Alberta - Enbridge Inc said yesterday it has no indication yet when it can restart a major U.S. Midwest oil pipeline after a deadly vehicle accident in Illinois the day before caused an oil leak and fire, forcing the company to shut down the line.

Enbridge, whose pipelines carry the bulk of Canadian crude exports to the United States, said it does not yet know how much oil spilled at the incident site near New Lenox, Illinois, about 40 miles southwest of Chicago.

The pipeline, called Line 14/64, normally carries up to 318,000 barrels of oil a day to Griffith, Indiana, from Superior, Wisconsin.

"Line 14/64 remains shut down as the investigation into the incident continues, enabling Enbridge to assess the damage and determine how long it will take to complete the necessary repairs caused by the vehicle collision early Saturday morning," Enbridge spokeswoman Lorraine Little said in an email.

Because of the reduced capacity for Enbridge pipelines running from Superior, the company has also slowed the flow on pipelines that feed oil into that hub from Alberta, Canada, she said.

Market sources said it is likely that discounts for Canadian crude, which have been unusually deep in recent weeks due partly to tight pipeline capacity, could deepen more today.

EU 'open' to talks on airlines tax, but won't change law

BRUSSELS (AFP) - EU officials said yesterday they will negotiate with international partners angry at what they see as a climate tax on airlines, but refused to change hotly disputed legislation despite fears in Germany.

"We have always been open to continuing discussions on the possibility of equivalent measures" outside Europe, Isaac Valero, spokesman for European Union climate action commissioner Connie Hedegaard, told AFP.

"This way we hope to reach a global agreement," he said, referring to a longstanding failure to bring industrialised and emerging powers onto the same page over environmental objectives for big industry. But awaiting this global agreement, we are not going to change our legislation." Hedegaard has insisted that equivalent measures by other countries would lead to like-for-like exemptions from the annual tax bill.

The charges imposed on airlines taking off or landing in Europe entered into force on January 1, designed to help the EU achieve its goal of cutting emissions by 20 percent by 2020.

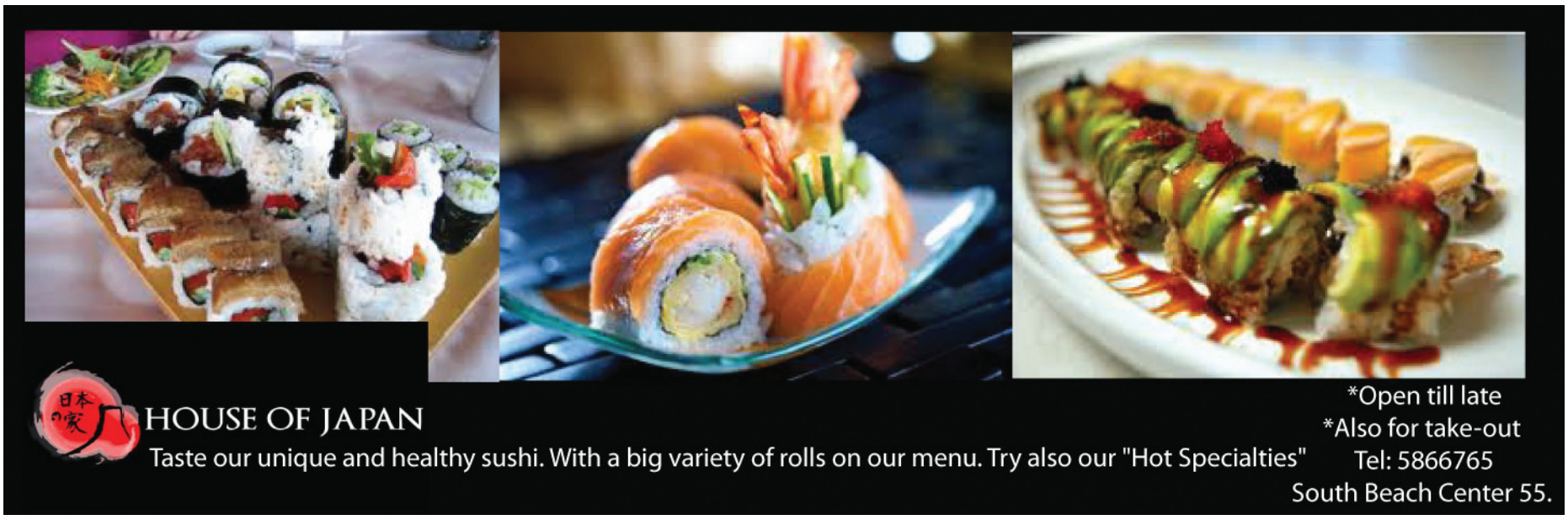
Airlines backed by overseas governments have challenged the scheme's legality in court, but for the first time Germany has expressed concerns mainly over Chinese threats that it could cancel orders for EU-built Airbus planes.



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SATURDAY'S Crossword Answer

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'Desperate Housewives' star claims unfair dismissal



LOS ANGELES (AFP) - A former "Desperate Housewives" actress took her ex-employer to court, claiming unfair dismissal from the hit TV series about lust and scandal in Wisteria Lane.

Nicollette Sheridan claims she was fired for complaining that the show's creator, Marc Cherry, slapped her on the head during rehearsals for a scene in September 2008.

The 48-year-old actress featured in five seasons of the ABC series, before her character Edie Britt was written out of it a few months after the slapping incident -- she claims in retaliation for her complaint.

Cherry's lawyers claim he had already decided to drop her character in May 2008, four months before the incident -- but Sheridan says she was assured in 2007 that her character would continue for the duration of the show.

Sheridan filed a lawsuit in April 2010, alleging battery and wrongful terminal of employment against Cherry and Touchstone Television Productions, which makes the show.

Defense attorney Adam Levin said Cherry simply tapped Sheridan on the head, trying to give her directions for the next scene.

"Desperate Housewives," about lust, gossip, and foul play in a pampered American suburb, is to take its final bow at the end of its current eighth

Veteran Yamamoto turns 'baby designer' once more







PARIS (AFP) - Twisting hooded dresses from a single length of jersey, or draping woollen cape-coats on bare shoulders, Yohji Yamamoto broke a few rules with the autumn-winter collection he showcased in Paris on Friday.

"I've been making clothes for a very long time," the 68-year-old Japanese designer explained after the Fashion Week show in the courtyard of a Paris high school. I wanted to come back to being a baby designer."

"I have been called 'Mr Cut' -- so this time I wanted to not cut at all," he smiled.

Poppy red or black dresses were wrapped from a single length of fabric, fine slashes cut for the arms and neck, some with hoods and scarves extending out of the same weave.

Also all of one piece, ornately draped dark coats were balanced on the shoulders or wound and looped around the body, over fine silk dresses, while long round-hemmed navy capes had wide lapels flipped up at the back.

The designer said he found a new kind of "body conscious", sexy aesthetic working on the collection -- although he stressed, "beautiful girls will be beautiful wearing a rag -- fashion designers just help".

'The Lorax' Chops Down The Competition At the Box Office

"Dr. Seuss' The Lorax" destroyed the competition with an amazing $70.7 million to take first place.

Featuring the voices of Danny DeVito, Ed Helms, Zac Efron and Taylor Swift, the PG-rated family film follows in the footsteps of 2000's "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas," which opened with $55.1 million

"The Lorax" wasn't the only new movie surpassing expectations, though, as the teen comedy "Project X" brought in $20.8 million en route to a second place finish.

Movie Weekend Gross Total to Date

1 Dr. Seuss' The Lorax (PG) $70.72M $70.72M

2 Project X (R) $20.8M $20.8M

3 Act of Valor (R) $13.7M $45.2M

4 Safe House (R) $7.2M $108.2M

5 Tyler Perry's Good Deeds (PG13) $7.0M $25.8M



Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals

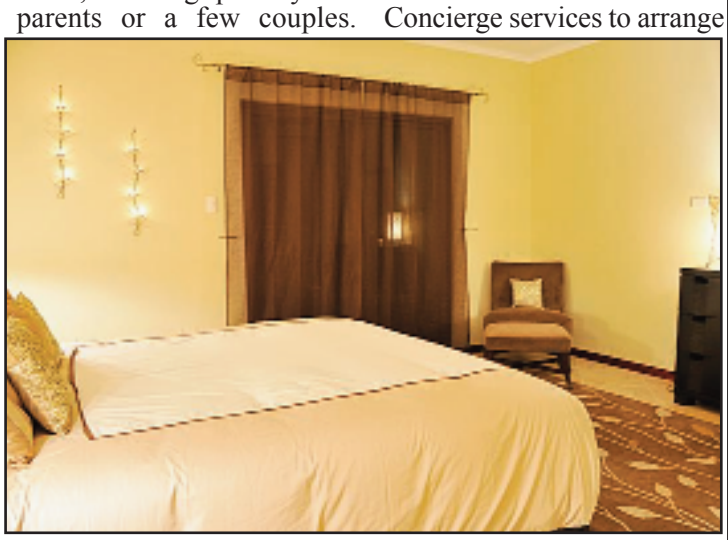


Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and fami- lies, famed hotelier Ed Ma-lone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV, high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.





Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



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Adopt an addict

Continued from page 3

Then, there are the expenses for clothing and toiletries, from toothbrushes to shoes to a traveling bag or suitcase for the trip to Santo Domingo. In practically all cases the addict has absolutely nothing. These expenses can only be covered by donations from the community.

According to the Foundation, they are actually doing a job that should be the responsibility of the government and the community. Their great desire, indeed, is to receive some sort of subsidy so that they could operate more efficiently. They would love to have a 'crisis room,' to pay more specialized persons to treat their clients in the resocialization process. They claim that to date, they are doing their utmost with the funds that they get. With a halfway house for 12 persons this is very difficult to manage with one director. It is no secret that other similar facilities normally have at least 3 to 4 professionals working with clients constantly.

Fundacion Adopt an Addict will be continuing their fund drives. They plan on being present at the various Anthem and Flag Day activities on March 17 on Plaza Betico Croes selling food. They will also be at the Mariniers Kazerne Open Day selling articles, plants and food to hopefully collect funds to continue their valuable work.

Companies or individuals who want to make a contribution in money or articles to sell, should contact one of the members of the Board, or come by the Halfway House at Moko. The Foundation of Adopt an Addict believes in a solution and will continue their work with the support of the Aruban Community.

Pointers: Protect and Preserve Aruban Women...

Continued from page 4

Hence, my question….how well are we addressing these women issues today. How will this year's conference contribute practically to solving some of these pressing issues that our women face? I sincerely look forward to some specific, concrete resolutions coming out of this year's conference.

As long as women in our hospital die needlessly from pregnancy and childbirth and other causes, we have to prioritize the health and rights of women. As long as there is widespread violence against women and girls and stupid sentences for these crimes from law enforcement, we have to enact and enforce equitable laws and bring about real justice for these crimes.

My sincere hope is that in this year's conference they will zero in on the real, everyday problems and injustices of women in this Aruban society, and make firm commitments to, in practical ways, find innovative solutions for the problems of our women. Women are the fiber and fabric of this society. Without women Aruba is nothing, the men in our society are useless without women (that includes me). We must protect, preserve, respect, honor, and cherish the women of Aruba, at all cost …and not just with lip service, but with actions! I salute all the precious women of Aruba on International Day of Women!

If this article was helpful, let me know at: tonygreen.morningnews@hotmail.com



Abramovich's Chelsea managers - Facts

Andre Villas-Boas was sacked as Chelsea manager on Sunday as Blues owner Roman Abramovich wielded the axe for the sixth time since buying the Premier League club in 2003.
Here are the records of Abramovich's eight managers:

Claudio Ranieri (2000-04 -- appointed by previous chairman Ken Bates and sacked by Abramovich)
Record: Played 197, Won 105, Drawn 46, Lost 46
Win ratio 53.3 per cent
SACKED

Jose Mourinho (2004-07)
Record: P182, W123, D39, 20
Win ratio 67.6 per cent
SACKED

Avram Grant (2007-08)
Record: P54, W36, D13, L5
Win ratio 66.7 per cent
SACKED

Luiz Felipe Scolari (2008-09)
Record: P36, W20, D11, L5
Win ratio 55.6 per cent
SACKED

Guus Hiddink (2009)
Record: P22, W16, D5, L1
Win ratio 72.7 per cent
RETURN TO COACH RUSSIA AFTER SPELL AS BLUES CARETAKER BOSS

Carlo Ancelotti (2009-11)
Record: P107, W67, D19, L21
Win ratio 62.6 per cent
SACKED

Andre Villas-Boas (2011-12)

Record: P40, W20, D10, L10

Win ratio 50 per cent

SACKED

Chelsea "big ask" for Villas-Boas, says Fergie



Villas Boas

LONDON (AFP) - Sir Alex Ferguson believes Andre Villas-Boas was always on a hiding to nothing at Chelsea after the Blues boss was sacked just eight months into his reign.

Villas-Boas was axed less than 24 hours after Saturday's 1-0 defeat at West Bromwich Albion following several weeks of speculation about his future.

The former Porto boss only took charge at Chelsea in June last year but endured a miserable time, in large part due to a stormy relationship with the club's leading players.

The 34-year-old also had strained relationships with several of Chelsea's senior stars, including England midfielder Frank Lampard, and a woeful sequence -- including just one win in their last seven matches and only three from their last 12 in the League -- forced owner Roman Abramovich to act.

The final straw came on Saturday as the Blues suffered a lacklustre 1-0 defeat at West Bromwich Albion thanks to a late winner from Garth McAuley.

"Andre Villa-Boas has parted company with Chelsea Football Club today," the Chelsea statement read.

"The board would like to record our gratitude for his work and express our disappointment that the relationship has ended so early.

"Unfortunately the results and performances of the team have not been good enough and were showing no signs of improving at a key time in the season.

Manchester United boss Ferguson, who enjoyed the support of his board through several trophy-less seasons at the start of his Old Trafford reign, hinted Villas-Boas was always likely to struggle at Chelsea, given his lack of experience and the demanding nature of owner Roman Abramovich.

"The lad's been under pressure but what you need in this job is time," Ferguson was quoted as saying on the BBC's website.

"His record at Porto shows he has got potential. But Chelsea was a big ask."

However, Newcastle manager Alan Pardew said that some of Chelsea's senior stars should apologise to Villas-Boas for failing to back his overhaul of the team's style and playing staff.

Pardew said he felt for Villas-Boas, who was criticised for dropping Ashley Cole, Frank Lampard and Didier Drogba, after experiencing a similar situation during his spell at West Ham.

"I know he is from Portugal but he has had to take on a club there with a lot of senior pros and in the background probably had a very, very difficult job.

"When you are in a transition year like that -- and I have been in it because I was at West Ham when I inherited a lot of senior pros who had just been relegated, and it was very, very difficult.

"They made it difficult for me, and one or two of them have apologised since, and so they should.

"I hope one day that happens to that manager because I think he deserves a better turn than he has had."

Sunderland manager Martin O'Neill was also sorry to see Villas-Boas dismissed and he said: "I am really disappointed for the lad, really disappointed.

"You don't get very much time these days and I genuinely couldn't be more disappointed. I feel for him."

Pakistan appoints Whatmore as coach

LAHORE (AFP) - Former Australian batsman Dav Whatmore has been appointed Pakistan's head coach for two years replacing Mohsin Khan who was serving on an interim basis, officials said Sunday.

The 57-year-old coached Sri Lanka to the World Cup title in 1996 and also helped Bangladesh reach the second round in the 2007 World Cup in the Caribbean.

He will start his tenure with next week's Asia Cup in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

"We have appointed Whatmore as the new coach of the Pakistan team for the next two years," Pakistan Cricket Borad (PCB) chairman Zaka Ashraf told reporters.

"We feel that a foreign coach can best exploit the talent available in Pakistan cricket."

Pakistan is known as a talented side that lacks consistency. They whitewashed world number one team England in three Tests but went down 4-0 in one-day matches and 2-1 in the Twenty20 series last month.

Whatmore said he was looking forward to the challenge.

"We will do our best to produce the best results with our available talent and I am confident of good results. I know this Pakistan team has talent but we have to deal with the inconsistency problem," he said.





Champion Klitschko warns challengers to think twice



Ukrainian heavyweight boxing world champion Wladimir Klitschko knocks out French challenger Jean-Marc Mormeck in the IBF, IBO, WBO and WBA title bout at the Esprit arena. (AFP photo)

DUSSELDORF (AFP) - World champion Wladimir Klitschko has issued a warning to any fighters looking to step up to the heavyweight division to think twice after he knocked out Jean-Marc Mormeck.

The 35-year-old defend his IBF, IBO, WBO and WBA titles, needing just four rounds to knock-out Mormeck, who stepped up from cruiserweight two years ago, and made good his promise to make the Frenchman the 50th KO of his career.

Last July, Klitschko beat Britain's David Haye, who had also stepped up from cruiserweight, to claim the WBA title.

The champion said promising cruiserweights and light heavyweights to carefully consider any challenge for a world heavyweight title.

"I think all the light heavyweights who have ambitions to get into heavyweight division should think twice," he said, having claimed the 57th win of his career with just three defeats in 60 fights.

"Jean-Marc wanted to believe I was weak at this point but I wanted to prove that my chin was solid," he added after Mormeck had threatened to "smash" the Ukrainian's "glass-jaw" in the pre-fight build up.

"From the first round, I set the pace and I controlled the fight the whole time.

"I expected him to come forward and I also knew he had no chance of succeeding with his plan. He insisted on it, however, and the end was inevitable."

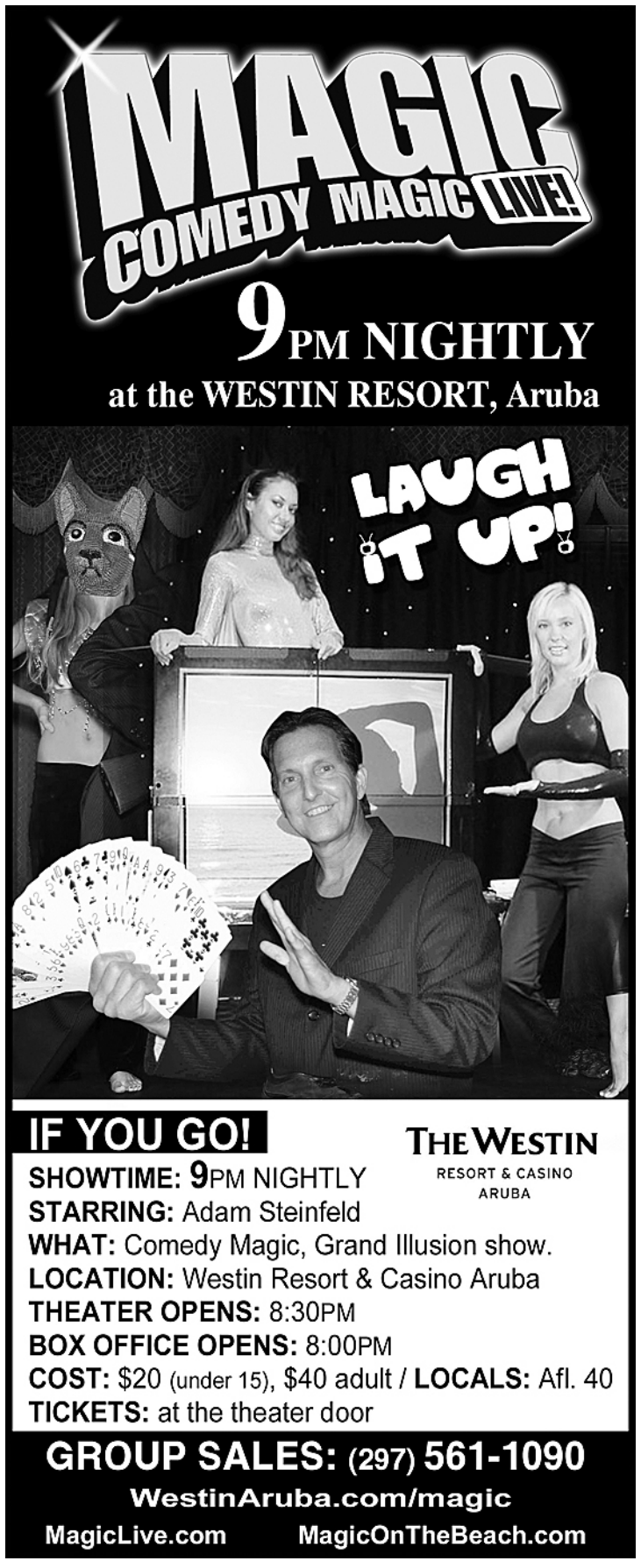
Mormeck, who turns 40 in June, was put on the canvas as early as the second round and despite rallying in the third, Klitschko finished the fight with a combination mid-way through the fourth before the referee stepped in.

"I think Jean-Marc was surprised by the strength, speed and balance of my boxing right off the bat," said Klitschko.

"I think he didn't expect it and it was difficult for him to restart after the first shot that I landed on him in the second round."

Dutch league results

Vitesse Arnhem 2, De Graafschap 0
Feyenoord 1, FC Groningen 0
FC Utrecht 0, NEC Nijmegen 0
Ajax 4, Roda JC 1
PSV Eindhoven 2, FC Twente 6
Played Saturday:
ADO Den Haag 0, SC Heerenveen 0
RKC Waalwijk 1, Excelsior 0
VVV Venlo 2, NAC Breda 1
AZ Alkmaar 3, Heracles 1



Ribery France's best-paid sportsperson

PARIS (AFP) - Bayern Munich winger Franck Ribery was France's best-paid sportsperson in 2011, according to a study set to be published by weekly magazine L'Equipe Mag on Saturday.

Ribery's gross annual income of 11.4 million euros ($15m) meant that he succeeded former France teammate Thierry Henry, who had occupied the position for the previous four years.

Ribery's 833,000 euros monthly salary is believed to make him the best-paid player in the German Bundesliga.

The 28-year-old leads the league table of French sport's highest earners ahead of San Antonio Spurs basketball player Tony Parker (11.2m euros in 2011) and Real Madrid striker Karim Benzema (11m euros).

New York Red Bulls striker Henry, who earned 9.2m euros in 2011, slipped to fourth place.

The top 10 best-paid French sportspeople in 2011 (L'Equipe Mag)

1. Franck Ribery (football), 11.4 million euros, 2. Tony Parker (basketball), 11.2m, 3. Karim Benzema (football), 11m, 4. Thierry Henry (football), 9.2m, 5. Eric Abidal (football), 7.5m, 6. Samir Nasri (football), 7.3m, 7. Sebastien Loeb (rally), 7.2m, 8. Yoann Gourcuff (football), 6.8m, 9. Boris Diaw (basketball), 6.1m, 10. Patrice Evra (football), 6m

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Valcke not welcome
Football chief says Brazil World Cup will be 'impeccable'

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - The president of the Brazilian Football Confederation, Ricardo Teixeira, insists the Latin American country will deliver an "impeccable" World Cup in 2014 despite criticism from FIFA that organisational progress is slow.

"FIFA concerns with regard to preparation of all World Cups are natural and legitimate," said Teixeira.

"But the body can keep calm because Brazil and its people have the competence and seriousness required to organise an impeccable and unforgettable World Cup," Teixeira said in a posting to the federation website overnight Saturday.

Teixeira's comments came amid a deepening row between FIFA and the Brazilian government after FIFA secretary general Jerome Valcke opined Friday that the organisers needed a "kick up the backside" to ensure that preperations were completed on time for Brazil's first World Cup in 64 years.

Brazil Sports Minister Aldo Rebelo reacted angrily Saturday to Valcke's trenchant comments, saying the country would boycott Valcke as a spokesman over his criticisms.

"The government will no longer accept the secretary general as FIFA spokesman," Rebelo said in deriding Valcke's comments as "impertinent," "inappropriate" and "offensive".

And Rebelo said that if Valcke goes ahead with plans to visit Brazil on March 12 he will not be received.

Valcke responded by dubbing Rebelo's reaction "a bit puerile."

"I will go to Brazil on March 12," Valcke confirmed.

FIFA have for months expressed varying degrees of concern over the extent to which preparations are on track for the first World Cup in Brazil since 1950.

But Frenchman Valcke pulled no punches on Friday in saying progress was much too slow.

"I don't understand why things are not moving. The stadiums are not on schedule any more and why are a lot of things late?" he asked.

"I am sorry to say but things are not working in Brazil," he added.

"You have to push yourself, kick your arse and just deliver this World Cup and that is what we will do."

Rebelo, insist "the secretary general's evaluation does not correspond to reality" as he asserted that 42 of 51 infrastructure improvements were on track for delivery by next year.

"The World Cup will be held in Brazil because we were chosen - not pulled out of a hat," concluded Rebelo, while adding that FIFA would - Valcke aside - continue to be welcome to visit the country.

Meanwhile, former striker and 1994 World Cup winner Romario, who has made frequent criticism of organisational progress from the sidelines, said FIFA was essentially correct in its - all be they impolite - assertions.

"When Valcke used the expression 'kick up the backside' I considered it ill-placed and somewhat rude. But he is 100 percent correct in saying that Brazil is behind the pump," Romario said on his Twitter account.

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